

ANNUAL MINUTES

—OF THE—

Baltimore Annual Conference,

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD AT

Bridgewater, Rockingham County, Va.,

March 10th to 14th, 1864.

Committee of Publication :
JAS. E. ARMSTRONG, J. A. H. MOORE, A. P. BOUDE.

Minutes of Conference.

FIRST DAY.

THURSDAY, March 10th, 1864.

The Baltimore Annual Conference commenced its session in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Bridgewater, Rockingham County, Va., Thursday morning, March 10th, 1864.

On motion, Norval Wilson was unanimously elected President of the Conference.

On taking the Chair, the President thus addressed the Conference.

Brethren Beloved :—May grace, mercy and peace, from God, our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you. May you be imbued with the Holy Ghost, and receive power from on High. It gives me sincere pleasure to meet with you and thus cordially greet you. My heart and affections are with you.

I have ever been, in sentiment, averse to ecclesiastical disruptions ; but after the General Conference of 1860, I arrived at the conviction that our further alliance with that body could only be maintained by a tame submission, involving the betrayal of the churches over which we *preside*.

In March, 1861, our Conference, by a large majority, severed its connection and became independent. We have remained, and are to the present time, an independent community, responsible to no superior authority, whether North or South of us.

Our present position is at once respectable and responsible. Geographically, we occupy a Valley, fertile, productive, and extensive ; its soil bearing resemblance to the land which God selected for His chosen people. Also, from our central position, giving us an opportunity to wield a moral power in all directions.

Numerically, we are entitled to respect. The population of our territory is large ; the Ministry of our Conference is not

inconsiderable in numbers ; our membership, embraced in numerous congregations where respectable and inviting church edifices have been reared, all—the proceeds of the labors of our fathers in the ministry—conspire to render this an interesting and inviting field.

I am impressed with the sentiment taken from the Bible record, that ' God loveth the gates of Zion more than all the tents of Jacob.' Civil commotions and political strifes may agitate Governments and convulse States ; but these are inconsiderable matters compared with the maintenance of that Church which God has purchased with his own blood,—small, as time is when compared with eternity.

You have stood thus far, by your post of duty. Your records attest that God has stood by you. Still, let me exhort you to stand firm, and, if need be, suffer. God shall help you and that right early. He will give you further success as the reward of your labors, and authorize the cherished hope of an abundant recompense in the life to come.

During our sessions let us set God always before us, and aim to promote His glory. Let us suffer mortification, defeat in debate, anything, only that the Church be made to prosper by our deliberations and God be glorified.

I thank you for the honor you have done me, the confidence you have reposed in me, and ask your aid and indulgence in the discharge of the duties to which I am so unexpectedly called.

The religious exercises were conducted by the President, by reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer.

J. S. Martin was elected Secretary, and J. E. Armstrong, Assistant Secretary.

The roll was called by the Secretary and 41 members answered to their names :

S. Regester, P. H. Whisner, L. R. Jones, A. Q. Flaherty, J. F. Bean, J. P. Etchison, J. S. Martin, F. C. Tebbs, G. G. Brooke, T. Hildebrand, J. A. H. Moore, G. R. Jefferson, W. D. Rippetoe, S. B. Dolly, L. Butt, J. W. Ewan, J. F. Liggett, J. W. F. Graham, L. D. Nixon, J. N. Gray, T. Briley, C. A. Joyce, E. R. Veitch, J. C. Dice, H. A. Gaver, R. Smith, D. W. Arnold, W. R. Stringer, J. E. Armstrong, A. P. Boude, L. Lenz, S. H. Griffith, E. F. Heterick, W. S. Baird, W. G. Eggleston, Norval Wilson, J. W. Wolff, W. Hedges, D. Bell, J. P. Hyde, L. W. Haslup.

Subsequently the following members appeared and answered to their names :

J. S. Gardner, J. Beatty, J. Landstreet, J. R. Wheeler, H. Hoffman, J. M. Grandin, S. Smith, T. H. Temple—49.

Conference resolved to commence its sessions at 8½ A. M. and adjourn at 12½ P. M.

The Rules of the last session were adopted for the government of the Conference during the present session.

On motion, the following Standing Committees were appointed, composed of one member from each Presiding Elder's District :

Necessitous Cases—J. P. Etchison, L. D. Nixon, F. C. Tebbs, H. A. Gaver, W. Hedges.

Seminaries—P. H. Whisner, J. W. Ewan, T. Briley, J. E. Armstrong, J. W. Wolff.

Temperance—G. G. Brooke, J. N. Gray, L. Butt, W. S. Baird, W. Hedges.

Bible Cause—L. R. Jones, J. W. F. Graham, G. R. Jefferson, J. A. H. Moore, J. M. Grandin.

Sunday Schools—J. R. Wheeler, J. F. Liggett, C. A. Joyce, R. Smith, J. M. Grandin.

State of the Church—D. Ball, L. D. Nixon, F. C. Tebbs, S. H. Griffith, N. Wilson.

Public Worship—E. R. Veitch, T. Hildebrand, J. A. H. Moore.

STEWARDS.

Clerical—J. C. Dice, J. W. Ewan, W. R. Stringer, J. W. Wolff, J. Landstreet.

Lay—M. Walton, J. Beard.

Publication of the Conference Register—J. E. Armstrong, J. A. H. Moore, A. P. Boude.

To collect Missionary Money—A. Q. Flaherty, J. F. Liggett, W. R. Stringer, L. Lenz, W. Hedges.

Committee on Case of J. W. Bennett—W. S. Baird, D. Ball, H. A. Gaver, T. Hildebrand, R. Smith, J. W. Wolff, J. F. Liggett, E. F. Heterick, W. Hedges.

The Eleventh Question of the General Minutes was called, viz :

Question—Were all the Preachers' characters examined ?
For answer see General Minutes.

Conference adjourned, with prayer by J. P. Hyde, to meet to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

FRIDAY, March 11th, 1864.

The Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by W. G. Eggleston.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

STATISTICS.

On motion, the Committee on Publication were permitted to exercise their own discretion, as to the publication of statistics.

REMOVALS.

On motion, Resolved, That the names of G. V. Leech, L. E. Johnson, B. F. Brooke, R. M. Lipscomb, W. V. Tudor and G. W. Carpenter, be omitted from the roll, they having removed beyond the bounds of the Virginia work.

RESOLUTION EXPLAINED.

The Conference directed that the following Preamble and Resolution, adopted in similar cases last year, be entered upon our Journal, as explanatory of the cause of our action at this session :

Whereas, Misconception may arise as to the purpose and effect of the action of this Conference in omitting from its roll the names of some of its members, therefore,

Resolved. That by said action we simply intended to obtain as correct a list as possible of those who are now so situated as to be able to look to us for appointments.

J. W. KELLY.

The character of J. W. Kelly was examined and passed, and a superannuated relation granted him.

S. MCMULLEN.

The death of S. McMullen was appropriately referred to by W. G. Eggleston. On motion, the President was requested to prepare an obituary notice of S. McMullen.

J. R. GREENWELL.

The death of J. R. Greenwell, a probationer, was appropriately noticed by E. R. Veitch.

J. H. MARCH.

The character of J. H. March was examined and passed, and a supernumary relation granted him.

COMMITTEE ON MEMOIRS.

A committee on Memoirs was appointed, as follows : W. D. Rippetoe, R. Smith, W. Hedges.

G. H. ZIMMERMAN.

The Conference ordered that the name of George H. Zimmerman be entered on the Journal.

The following Preamble and resolutions were presented and read, and on motion, they were referred to the Committee on the State of the Church :

Whereas—Some who were members of this body, and who were *professedly* with us in sentiment and action, on the great questions which have severed our ecclesiastical and political connection with the North, have voluntarily left their appropriate work, and gone beyond our jurisdiction, and have identified themselves with those who are our enemies in war, therefore,

1. Resolved, That their conduct receives the unqualified disapproval and censure of this Conference, as being a breach of the confidence and faith which we and our people reposed in them.

2. Resolved, That in view of the present status of ecclesiastical and political affairs, the mere fact of a minister's voluntarily leaving his work, and going into the lines of the enemy, without giving a satisfactory explanation of his conduct, is *prima facie* evidence that he is in sympathy with them, and he will be so adjudged and treated by this Conference.

The Fourth Question of the General Minutes was called, viz:

Question—Who are the deacons? For answer see General Minutes.

Conference adjourned, with prayer by J. F. Liggett, to meet this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the chair.

Religious Exercises were conducted by J. S. Gardner.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

The Eighth Question of the General Minutes was called, viz. :

Question—Who are the Superannuated Preachers? For answer, see General Minutes.

CLAIMANTS.

The Conference called for the names of Claimants on the Conference funds, in accordance with the resolution of last session.

On motion, the name of Mrs. Bunn was added to the list of Claimants.

The second Question of the General Minutes was called, viz :

Question—Who remained on trial? For answer see General Minutes.

E. L. KREGLO.

On motion, E. L. Kreglo, a member of the Tennessee Conference, was re-admitted as a member of this Conference.

SEAT OF OUR NEXT CONFERENCE.

On motion, New Market was declared to be the seat of our next Conference, by a unanimous vote.

TIME OF NEXT SESSION.

The second Thursday in March next, was appointed for the commencement of the next session.

Conference adjourned, with prayer by L. Lenz, to meet tomorrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, March 12, 1864.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the chair.

Religious Services were conducted by W. Hedges.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

SEMINARIES.

The Report of the Committee on Seminaries was presented and read, and on motion, it was adopted. See Reports.

TEMPERANCE.

On motion, the Conference re-affirmed its action of last year on the subject of Temperance. (See Conference Register of 1863.)

E. G. JAMISON.

On motion, the relation of E. G. Jamison was changed from effective to Supernumerary.

STEWARDS.

The Stewards presented their report, and on motion, it was adopted. See Reports.

JOSEPH TEMPLE.

On motion, the name of Joseph H. Temple, a member of the Western Virginia Conference, was entered upon the roll as a Supernumerary Preacher.

J. W. BENNETT.

The Committee appointed in the case of J. W. Bennett, reported that the charges preferred against him were sustained and declared him expelled from the Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

J. P. Etchison was placed upon the Committee on Sunday Schools, in the place of J. R. Wheeler.

The Fifth Question of the General Minutes was called, viz: Question—Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year? For answer see General Minutes.

J. L. SNYDER.

The Fourth Question of the General Minutes was called, viz.: Who are the Deacons? And the character of J. L. Snyder was examined and passed.

BIBLE CAUSE.

The Report of the Committee on the Bible Cause was presented and read, and on motion, it was adopted. See Reports.

MEMOIRS.

The Committee on Memoirs presented the Memoirs of Solomon McMullen and of J. M. Littell, which were read, and on motion, adopted. See Memoirs.

The Memoir of J. R. Greenwell, a probationer, was presented and read, and on motion, it was committed to J. Landstreet to revise and prepare it for the action of the next Conference.

Conference adjourned, with prayer by W. D. Rippetoe, to meet this afternoon at 2½ o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the Chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by J. P. Etchison.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was presented and read, and on motion, it was adopted.

On motion, the Committee on Necessitous Cases was discharged.

INTRODUCTION.

Rev. C. V. Bingley, of the Virginia Conference M. E. Church, South, was introduced to the Conference.

M. MAY.

The Fourth Question of the General Minutes was called, viz : Who are the Deacons? And the character of M. May was examined and passed.

The First Question of the General Minutes was called, viz :

Question—Who are admitted on trial? For answer see General Minutes.

The Report of the Committee on the State of the Church was presented and read.

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted.

Conference determined that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet in the Church this evening at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of attending the Missionary Anniversary, and that immediately thereafter the regular Conference business be resumed.

Conference closed, with prayer by J. M. Grandin, to meet this evening at 7 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the Chair.

Conference resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the State of the Church.

Conference adjourned, with the Benediction by the President, to meet on next Monday morning at 8½ o'clock.

FOURTH DAY.

MONDAY, Morning, March 14, 1864.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by S. H. Griffith.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

FAST DAY.

On motion, Resolved, That this Conference respect and observe the day appointed by the Congress of the Confederate States, as a day of Fasting and Prayer.

HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Conference proceeded to elect the officers of the Home Missionary Society, as follows, viz. :

President, G. G. Brooke; Vice-President, J. S. Gardner; Secretary, J. C. Dice; Treasurer, J. E. Armstrong.

On motion, the 11th Article of the Constitution of the Home Missionary Society, was so amended as to insert after the words, "answer all orders of the Missionary Committee on the Treasury," the additional words, "approved by the Executive Committee."

FRATERNAL MESSENGERS.

On motion, John S. Martin was elected as Fraternal Messenger to the Virginia Conference, in accordance with the Resolution contained in the Report on the State of the Church. Dabney Ball was elected Alternate.

INTRODUCTION.

General John D. Imboden, commanding in the Valley District, was introduced to the Conference.

SEXTON.

On motion, a collection was lifted for the benefit of the sexton.

THANKS.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to our venerable President, for the able manner in which he has presided during our Conference session.

The following resolution was offered by J. M. Grandin :

Resolved, By this Conference, That we highly appreciate the warm reception we have met with by the citizens of Bridgewater and its vicinity, and our most hearty thanks are hereby returned, for the very cordial and abundant hospitality with which we have been entertained.

On motion, it was unanimously adopted.

CHAPLAINS.

On motion, Resolved, By the Baltimore Annual Conference, That we highly appreciate the services of those members

of this body who are acting as Chaplains in the Army of the Confederate States, and as their pay is inadequate, therefore, the Missionary Committee be, and is hereby, instructed to render such aid to those of them who have families, as the funds in their hands will justify.

LOCAL DEACONS.

A call was made for the recommendation of Local Deacons to Elder's Orders, and the application of Wm. Wade was presented and read, and on motion, he was elected to Elder's Orders.

STEWARDS.

Conference proceeded to elect a Board of Stewards. See Appendix.

D. BALL.

On motion, Resolved, That the appointing power of this Conference be respectfully requested to appoint Dabney Ball, as Missionary to the Confederate States Army.

STATISTICS.

On motion, Resolved, That Presiding Elders be, and are hereby, directed to present the statistics of the several Districts to the Secretary at the next Conference.

ARMY MISSIONARY.

Conference ordered that D. Ball be authorized to take up collections, when practicable, in aid of his mission, and report to the Treasurer of the Missionary Society.

A copy of the resolution, relating to the appointment of D. Ball, was ordered to be furnished to him by the Secretary.

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

The Report of the Committee on Missions was presented and read, and on motion, it was adopted.

APPOINTMENTS.

The appointments of the Preachers, to their several fields of labor, were announced by the President.

General Minutes.

Question 1. Who are admitted on trial ?

William McDonald, Addison Weller, Charles T. Dillard, Joseph Crickenberger, Richard N. Poole, John Thomas Maxwell, Charles L. Dameron.

Question 2. Who remain on trial ?

M. Goheen Balthis, David Harris, L. C. Miller, E. H. Jones, A. A. P. Neel, W. R. McNeer.

Question 3. Who are admitted into full connection ?

None.

Question 4. Who are the Deacons ?

J. F. Bean, A. P. Boude, S. F. Butt, T. Briley, L. Lenz, J. A. H. Moore, M. May, W. Hedges, J. Leef, J. L. Snyder.

The following are the Deacons elect but not ordained :

L. R. Jones, J. P. Hyde, L. Butt, J. N. Gray, C. A. Joyce, P. H. Whisner, A. Q. Flaherty, L. W. Haslup.

Question 5. Who have been elected and ordained Elders?

The following were elected but not ordained : T. Briley, L. Lenz, J. A. H. Moore, L. R. Jones, J. P. Hyde, J. N. Gray.

Question 6. Who have located this year ?

None.

Question 7. Who are the Supernumerary Preachers ?

J. H. March, E. G. Jamison, Joseph H. Temple.

Question 8. Who are the Superannuated, or worn-out, Preachers ?

N. Wilson, D. Trout, J. W. Kelly.

Question 9. Who have been expelled from the connection this year

J. W. Bennett.

Question 10. Who have withdrawn from the connection this year ?

None.

Question 11. Were all the Preachers' characters examined ?

This was strictly attended to by calling over their names before the Conference.

Question 12. Who have died this year ?

S. McMullen.

Question 13. What is the number of members and what of Probationers in society ?

The Statistics being imperfect were not presented in the aggregate.

Question 14. What amounts are necessary for the Superannuated Preachers, and the widows and orphans of Preachers ?

See Stewards' Report.

Question 15. What has been collected on the foregoing account ?

See Stewards' Report.

Question 16. What has been contributed for the support of Missions ?

See Report of Treasurer.

Question 17. Where are the Preachers stationed this year ?

See Appointments.

Question 18. When and where shall our next Conference be held ?

New Market, Shenandoah County, Va., March 11, 1865.

Reports.

I.

STATE OF THE CHURCH.

Your Committee on the State of the Church respectfully present the following report :

After deliberate and prayerful consideration of the history and developments of the past year within our bounds, bearing upon the operations and interests of the Church, we are constrained to express our gratitude to God for the degree of prosperity and success which have attended our labors. And while we have to deplore the desolations of war among us, and the mutilation of much of our fair territory, with the consequent depression of religious interest in many localities, yet, on the other hand, we perceive great cause to thank God and take

courage in the constancy, the Christian fortitude and patience of our people, and in their unity of feeling and sentiment, and their abiding fidelity to, and confidence in us as their ministers.

The reports from the various sections of the Conference, present the Church in an improved condition, pecuniarily and religiously.

In regard to our position and relations upon the grave and momentous issues of the times there is no change to note. We still abide by our oft-repeated declaration of principles and rights—civil and ecclesiastical.

We deem it unnecessary to repeat, but would emphatically re-affirm, those declarations. In the language of the able report of last year, "they have become history, 'known and read of all men'."

In the practical workings of the Conference, however, there are several phases presenting themselves which, we think, demand further action :

1. Some obtuseness of perception seems to exist as to our connection, or relation, to the so-called Baltimore Conference, held from time to time North of the Potomac.

2. Some of our brethren, who have heretofore met with us and received their appointments, have, in violation of the faith reposed in them, and of the order and discipline of the Church, abandoned their work and their brethren in their severe trials, and gone beyond our jurisdiction.

3. Much embarrassment has been experienced by our young brethren entitled to ordination, and by the people whom they serve, for want of their authority to administer the ordinances of religion.

4. The fraternal sympathy exhibited by our brethren of the Church South, and especially of our nearest neighbor, the Virginia Conference, demands a cordial response, therefore, be it

1. Resolved, By the Baltimore Annual Conference, in Conference assembled, That according to the acts and process indicated in the report of the Committee on the State of the Church, last Spring, we are a separate, distinct and independent Church within ourselves, under no foreign jurisdiction or control, and are the only legally constituted and organized representatives of the Baltimore Annual Conference, and in no wise complicated in, or responsible for, the acts of the so-called Baltimore Conference holden North of the Potomac River, and that we are wholly free from, and independent of, the jurisdiction and authority of the M. E. Church in the North.

2. Resolved, That the same embarrassing circumstances which have precluded the formation of any new Church rela-

tions in the past still existing, we earnestly exhort our people to hold to their present principles and organization, at least until these embarrassments subside and afford an opportunity to act with unity in the relations of the future.

3. Resolved, That the conduct of those brethren who have left the Conference, and forsaken their people and brethren, and gone beyond our bounds and control, without satisfactory explanation, merits, and hereby receives, the emphatic censure of this Conference.

4. Resolved, That in view of the pressing necessity for the ordination of our Deacons and Elders elect, and the recognized fraternal relations subsisting between us and the M. E. Church, South, the Senior Presiding Elder of this Conference be, and is hereby, instructed to communicate with the Bishops of said Church and respectfully request them, in behalf of this Conference, to ordain them, at such time and place as said Bishop, or Bishops, may designate.

5. Resolved, That some brother be appointed by this Conference to visit the Virginia Conference, at its next session, to express the reciprocal feelings and kindly sentiments of this Conference.

6. Resolved, That the fraternal messengers appointed by this Conference two years ago, to visit the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, be still continued as authorized, to meet that body whenever it may be convened in its next session, in the capacity and for the purpose indicated.

II.

BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause beg leave to make the following report :

That the Bible, above all books, should be extensively circulated among all classes of the people, by every possible means consistent with its spirit, cannot be doubted by any intelligent Christian for a moment. The bread of life for perishing souls should be abundant, and, therefore, we do most deeply regret that any obstruction should be thrown in the way of its distribution.

But while we are called upon humbly to lament, before the Great Head of the Church, the inadequate supply of this priceless volume, because of the condition of our country, and the work of the great enemy of God and man who would gladly blockade the very river of life, yet we are thankful that we are not without hope that in the order of God's providence these obstacles will not long hence be removed from this great chan-

nel of the Gospel; and that this cause will advance, not only as in former times, but reach a state of vigor and efficiency quite beyond any antecedent prosperity.

We are fully persuaded that our people have not lost their interest in this enterprise. Their heart and soul are in it still. They only want it brought earnestly before them to receive their cheerful response, and when the inability of the press of our country to supply the Book shall be removed, and fuller access to other channels shall be had, they will gladly provide the means for a liberal supply of this great want.

And it is particularly gratifying to us to be able to say that the great solicitude and advantage in this matter, are not with the civilian alone; but the soldier receives, and reads with eagerness and profit, the Word of God, and rejoices to contribute to this and every interest of the Church of Christ. The circulation of the Bible in camp has been attended with the most cheering results, so that many a man, who entered the field a careless impenitent, has become a true and faithful Christian, through the simple instrumentality of *a Bible*.

Go, leaves of life's great tree,
And seal the destiny
Of millions more.

Your committee beg leave to add to this report the following resolutions :

1. Resolved, That we highly appreciate every effort made by benevolent individuals and societies, both of our own and sister denominations, to procure the Bible for gratuitous distribution.

2. Resolved, That we continue to commend the "Confederate States Bible Society," and its auxiliaries, to the favor of God and his people and that we will most cordially co-operate with them in their great work.

3. Resolved, That we recommend that collections be taken up during this Conference year for the Bible Cause, by all the preachers at their several appointments, at such time as they may deem most suitable.

J. M. GRANDIN, Chairman,
L. R. JONES.
G. R. JEFFERSON.
J. W. F. GRAHAM.
J. A. H. MOORE.

III. SEMINARIES.

The Committee on Seminaries present the following report :

The Wesleyan Female Institute, at Staunton, Va., sustains a relation to the Conference which demands our cordial support.

The most important offices of the School are filled by Conference appointment.

The Institute has, for the past year, under the direction of Rev. W. S. Baird, enjoyed success and prosperity such as it had not known for years, being patronized to an extent which left no room for improvement.

The Teachers all enjoy the entire confidence of the public. Ministers' daughters receive their tuition free. We offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Wesleyan Female Institute deserves and shall receive our hearty support.

J. E. ARMSTRONG,

J. W. WOLFF,

P. H. WHISNER,

J. W. EWAN,

THOS. BRILEY.

IV.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to submit the following report :

Having received statistics from nearly all the Circuits and Stations we are happy to be able to make more encouraging report than that of last year. We believe the Schools throughout our work are as prosperous as could be expected, notwithstanding all the embarrassing circumstances under which we are placed. We present the following resolutions for adoption :

1. Resolved, That we recommend our preachers to regularly visit all the Sabbath Schools in their charges ; that by their presence and counsel they may encourage both teachers and scholars.

2. Resolved, That our ministers be instructed to preach a special sermon, on this subject, to all the congregations in their respective charges.

3. Resolved, That as ministers of a Church which has always been Missionary in its character, we will form Sunday Schools in destitute places, whenever the disciplinary number of scholars can be obtained.

4. Resolved, That our preachers be hereby directed to collect statistics during the ensuing year, and present them at the next session of our Conference.

C. A. JOYCE,

J. M. GRANDIN,

J. P. ETCHISON,

J. F. LIGGETT,

R. SMITH.

V.

STEWARDS' REPORT.

The Board of Stewards respectfully submit the following :
Amount received from the different Stations and
Circuits, \$1,580.93

COLLECTIONS.

Christiansburg,.....	\$ 55.50
Blacksburg,.....	22.30
Jacksonville,.....	160.10
Fincastle,.....	50.00
Lexington,...	30.00
Rockbridge,.....	114.00
Covington,.....	44.00
Monterey,.....	65.00
Lewisburg,.....	95.00
Frankford,.....	24.00
White Sulphur Springs,.....	30.00
Blue Sulphur Springs,.....	75.00
Levelton,.....	10.00
Monroe,.....	54.00
Warm Springs,.....	30.75
Bath Alum,.....	78.50
Staunton,....	73.65
Mt. Sidney,.....	131.75
Rockingham,	15.00
Upper Rockingham,...	122.30
Woodstock,.....	35.00
New Market,.....	50.00
Front Royal,.....	165.08
Winchester Circuit,..	50.00

\$1,580.93 \$1,580.93

DISBURSEMENTS.

N. Wilson,.....	\$ 480.00
D. Trout,.....	485.00
Mrs. Bunn,.....	160.35
Mrs. J. N. Eakin,.....	131.58
Mrs. Roszel,.....	124.00
Mrs. Watts,	100.00
Mrs. Guest,.....	100.00

\$1,580.93 \$1,580.93

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend the Ministers in charge of the different Circuits and Stations, to take up collections for Conference claimants by the middle of November.

W. R. STRINGER, Secretary.

J. C. DICE, Chairman.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

The following appropriations are made for the ensuing year :

Roanoke District,.....	\$ 400.00
Lexington District,.....	400.00
Lewisburg District,.....	600.00
Rockingham District,.....	500.00
South Branch District,.....	300.00
Missionary and Chaplains,...	1,400.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,600.00

REPORT OF TREASURER OF HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

J. E. ARMSTRONG, Treasurer,

	In Acc't with Home Miss. Society of	
1863.	Baltimore Conference,	Dr.
March 25,	To Cash Received, collection	
1864.	at Churchville,	\$1,195.55
March 11.	To Cash Received—Circuits and	
	Stations, as follows :	
Roanoke District—		
	Christiansburg,.....	\$ 50.00
	Blacksburg,..	67.30
	Jacksonville,.....	89.30
	Newport,.....	35.00
	Roanoke,	10.00
	Fincastle,	150.00
	Covington,	101.00
		502.60
Churchville District—		
	Churchville,	\$ 50.00
	Rockbridge,	92.00
	Fairfield,	44.00
	West Augusta.....	14.00
	Monterey,	25.00
	Warm Springs,.....	25.00
	Bath Alum,.....	27.75
		273.15
Lewisburg District :		
	Lewisburg,.....	\$ 153.00
	Frankford,.....	114.75
	White Sulphur,.....	30.00
	Blue Sulphur,.....	100.00
	Levelton,	167.50
	Monroe,	71.00
	Sweet Springs,	25.00
	Peterstown,.....	20.00
		681.25

Rockingham District :		
Staunton,.....	\$ 220.00	
Augusta,	86.50	
Mt. Sidney,.....	100.00	
Rockingham,	85.00	
East Rockingham,.....	244.25	
New Market,.....	260.00	
Woodstock,.....	45.00	
Luray,	78.00	
Bridgewater,.....	2,306.00	3,424.75

\$6,077.30

1864.

Cr.

March 11. By Cash, as per order of Missionary Committee paid.

Roanoke District :		
Salem,	\$ 50.00	
Newport,.....	100.00	
Presiding Elder,.....	300.00	\$450.00
Churchville District :		
Fairfield..	50.00	
West Augusta.....	214.00	
Warm Springs,.....	75.00	339.00
Lewisburg District :		
Lewisburg,	\$200.00	
Frankford	200.00	
Sweet Springs,.....	175.00	
Peterstown,.....	150.00	
Warm Springs,.....	75.00	800.00
Rockingham District :		
Augusta	\$100.00	
Mt. Sidney,.....	200.00	
Rockingham,	250.00	
New Market,.....	37.50	
Woodstock,.....	37.50	
Franklin,.. ..	100.00	
Moorefield,	100.00	825.00

March. By cash in hands of Treasurer,..... 3,663.30

\$6,077.30

Note.—D. Ball, Missionary on Ewell's Corps,
received from Salem,.....\$291.00

Christiansburg, 100.00 \$401.00

COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION.

1st Year—P. H. Whisner, L. R. Jones, G. R. Jefferson.

2nd Year—R. Smith, J. F. Liggett, W. D. Rippetoe.

3rd Year—J. R. Wheeler, J. A. H. Moore, R. R. S. Hough.

4th Year—W. S. Baird, S. Rodgers, J. C. Dice.

TRUSTEES OF WESLEYAN FEMALE INSTITUTE.

E. R. Veitch, J. C. Dice, S. Regester, G. G. Brooke, F. C. Tebbs, R. Smith.

VISITORS TO WESLEYAN FEMALE INSTITUTE.

J. E. Armstrong, J. A. H. Moore.

COMMITTEE ON MEMOIRS.

J. W. Tongue, P. H. Whisner, T. M. Carson.

CONFERENCE STEWARDS.

J. P. Etchison, W. R. Stringer, J. C. Dice, L. D. Nixon,
J. W. Wolff, S. B. Dolly, J. Landstreet.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Rev. A. P. Boude, Rev. F. C. Tebbs, Archibald Trotter,
Asbury Buhrman, Jos. Beard.

Memoir of Rev. S. McMullen.

In the absence of nearly all data and dates respecting the life and labors of the deceased; and, in view of the fact, that we expect a memoir to be prepared, at some future time, by the presiding officer of the Conference, we do not deem it important, at present, to refer minutely to the history of our beloved and lamented brother.

He was well known to the older brethren of this Conference, and we feel well assured, that those of us who knew him best loved him most. He was a faithful man of God—beloved, respected and honored, by the people among whom he had labored so very acceptably for many years. His preaching was truly evangelical, and of the best style, always acceptable and edifying to the audience.

As a social companion he was amiable, dignified and agreeable, winning for himself, in this sphere, the love and admiration of all.

Bro. S. McMullen died September, 1863. He has gone to his reward, and therefore “rests from his labors and his

works do follow him." He fell at his post, and ceased at once to work and live.

May the blessing of the Great Head of the Church rest upon his bereaved family and friends.

ROBERT SMITH,
W. HEDGES,
W. D. RIPPETOE.

Memoir of Rev. J. M. Littell.

Our dear brother, the subject of this sketch, which from its brevity cannot do justice either to his memory or virtues, was born at New Market, Shenandoah County, Va., September 21st, 1826. Of his childhood and youth we know but little, having not made his acquaintance until after he arrived at the years of manhood. The history of those earlier years, the blossoming of which gave promise of a luxuriant harvest of intelligence, piety and usefulness, is best known to those who were familiarly associated with him in early life.

He was a child of nature, that is, he possessed a poetic admiration of the works of God, not only of the beauties, but of the wonders of the creation.

In the 22nd year of his age he was converted and joined the M. E. Church. And that Church, which was instrumental in his salvation, he loved, honored, and aided, pecuniarily, influentially and personally, in all her institutions and enterprises. He consecrated all to God—body, soul and spirit; and in the spirit of prompt obedience and martyr-like devotion enquired, Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do? He enjoyed, too, the consolations of divine grace. In his Christian experience he was like a tree planted by the rivers of water.

He assumed ministerial responsibility September, 1854, and we think that those who knew him during the brief period of his pulpit and pastoral labors, will endorse our reference to the 19th, 20th, 21st and 24th verses of the Acts of the Apostles, as descriptive of his ministry and ministerial deportment. He was an interesting and pathetic speaker. He watered the seed of eternal life with his tears. He was earnest. His sanguine temperament and energetic spirit, purified by divine grace, flamed even to self-consumption, and like holy incense upon the altar of God, it was said of the sainted Jay, "he preached as a dying man to dying men, and as though he ne'er should preach again." This is eminently applicable to Brother Littell. He was effective by the Holy Ghost. The seed sown by his hand, and watered by his sympathies and prayers, sprang up and flourished, and many, we doubt not, in the day of eternity, will rise and call him blessed.

At the session of our Conference in Staunton, Rev. T. H.

W. Monroe preached on Sunday morning at the Protestant Episcopal Church. Bro. Littell was invited forward to close. The prayer he addressed to the Throne of Grace was most impressive and affecting. We will never forget it. The congregation were subdued by his melting tones and tearful eloquence. When they arose, apparently reluctantly, many eyes were suffused with tears.

Brother Littell was in traveling connection nearly eight years, highly esteemed for his estimable qualities, ministerial talents and earnest piety, by his brethren in the ministry and the people generally. In 1855 he joined the Conference and was appointed to Moorefield Circuit, the following year he labored on South Branch Circuit. In the Spring of 1857 he was appointed to Rockingham Circuit, but yielding to the advice of his friends he took a tour to the South to recruit his health. After his return in 1858, he was appointed to Hillsboro' Circuit. In 1859 he labored on Winchester Circuit, very efficiently and acceptably. In 1860 he was appointed to Shepherdstown, and returned by request in 1861, where, on September 3rd, he fell asleep in Jesus. His disease was typhoid fever. He died in the faith of the Gospel, and in the glorious hope of a blissful immortality.

His remains rest in the cemetery of his native town, whence they shall rise in the resurrection of the just, arrayed in the beautiful robe of spotless purity.

“Thus star by star declines,

Till all are passed away—

As morning high and higher shines

To pure and perfect day.

Nor sink those stars in empty night,

But hide themselves in Heaven's own light.”

ROBERT SMITH.

W. D. RIPPETOE.

W. HEDGES.

APPENDIX.

Constitution of the Home Missionary Society

Article I.—This Society shall be denominated the Home Missionary Society of the Baltimore Annual Conference.

Article II.—The object of this Society shall be to aid in spreading the Gospel through the destitute portions of the Conference.

Article III.—The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer—annually elected from the members of the Society.

Article IV.—An Executive Committee composed of two Clerical and three Lay members, appointed by the President, shall in conjunction with the officers above named, arrange for the Conference anniversary, and in every suitable manner promote the interests of the Society.

Article V.—The payment of one dollar annually shall entitle any person to membership in this Society. The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute a member for life, and the payment of one hundred dollars at one time shall constitute a life director.

Article VI.—The anniversary of this Society shall be held at the seat of Conference on such day of its session as the Executive Committee may determine, when efforts shall be made for the collection of funds.

Article VII.—An annual collection shall be taken up in all the charges of this Conference, to be reported to the Treasurer by the second day of the Conference session.

Article VIII.—This Society shall be presided over by the President; in his absence, by the Vice-President.

Article IX.—The Secretary shall keep a journal of the proceedings of this Society, preserve the records and papers, and conduct the correspondence under the direction of the President.

Article X.—There shall be a Committee, composed of the Presiding Elders, whose duty it shall be to determine the several portions of the Conference which require Missionary appropriations, and to estimate the amounts respectively necessary to meet the demand.

Article XI.—The Treasurer shall keep an account of all the receipts and disbursements, answer all orders of the Missionary Committee on the Treasury, approved by the Executive Committee, and exhibit the state of the funds to the Conference at its annual session.

Article XII.—This Constitution may be altered, or amended, by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Society, at its annual session.

APPOINTMENTS

Roanoke District, S. Regester, P. E.—Salem, J. F. Liggett ; Christiansburg, F. C. Tebbs ; Blacksburg, L. R. Jones ; Jacksonville, J. F. Bean and W. McDonald ; Newport, A. Q. Flaherty ; Roanoke, To be supplied ; Fincastle, J. P. Etchison, R. N. Poole, E. G. Jamison, sup. ; Covington, C. A. Joyce.

Lexington District, J. S. Martin, P. E.—Lexington, To be supplied ; Rockbridge, J. J. Engle ; Fairfield, W. R. Stringer ; Augusta, H. A. Gaver and E. H. Jones ; West Augusta, W. D. Rippetoe ; Churchville, T. Hildebrand and J. N. Gray ; East Rockingham, J. P. Hyde, one to be supplied ; Millboro Circuit, J. Leef.

Lewisburg District, J. S. Gardner, P. E.—Lewisburg, P. H. Whisner ; Frankford, J. W. Ewan, one to be supplied ; White Sulphur, L. C. Miller and M. May ; Blue Sulphur, J. C. Wasson, one to be supplied ; Clintonville, To be supplied ; Levelton, A. A. P. Neal ; Green Bank, J. W. F. Graham ; Monroe, L. D. Nixon and C. T. Dillard ; Gap Mills, J. P. Chittum, one to be supplied ; Peterstown, P. S. E. Sixeas and L. Butt.

South Branch District, S. H. Griffith, P. E.—Franklin, one to be supplied, J. Crickenberger, J. H. Temple, sup. ; Moorefield, J. Beatty ; South Branch, O. P. Wirgman ; North River, S. Smith ; New Creek, H. Hoffman ; Monterey, S. B. Dolly and J. L. Snyder ; Highland, To be supplied ; Warm Springs, T. Briley.

Rockingham District, E. R. Veitch, P. E.—Staunton, J. C. Dice ; Mt. Sidney, R. Smith ; Rockingham, J. A. H. Moore ; Bridgewater, G. R. Jefferson and C. L. Dameron ; New Market, A. P. Boude and A. Weller ; Woodstock, J. E. Armstrong ; Front Royal, R. R. S. Hough ; Luray, L. Lenz. Wesleyan Female Institute, W. S. Baird, Principal, and member of Staunton Quarterly Conference.

Winchester District, W. G. Eggleston, P. E.—Winchester, J. R. Wheeler ; Winchester Circuit, J. W. Wolff and E. F.

Heterick ; Berryville, W. Hedges ; Berkeley, J. W. Tongue ; Jefferson, I. Gibson and J. H. March, sup. ; Shepherdstown, E. L. Kregloe ; Springfield, C. L. Torreyson, one to be supplied ; Wardensville, D. Harris, one to be supplied ; Hillsboro, J. H. Waugh and B. Hough ; Shannondale, J. H. Wolff.

Loudoun District, S. S. Roszel, P. E.—Loudoun, F. H. Richey and A. Robey ; Leesburg, To be supplied ; Warrenton, D. W. Arnold ; Fairfax, To be supplied ; East Fairfax, To be supplied ; Fredericksburg, To be supplied ; Stafford, To be supplied ; Rehobeth, To be supplied.

Norval Wilson, D. Trout and J. W. Kelly, Superannuated Preachers.

G. G. Brooke, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Covington Quarterly Conference.

D. Ball, Missionary to C. S. A., and member of Salem Quarterly Conference.

J. Landstreet, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Loudoun Quarterly Conference.

J. M. Grandin, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Staunton Quarterly Conference.

C. F. Linthicum, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Front Royal Quarterly Conference.

T. M. Carson, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Winchester Quarterly Conference.

P. B. Smith Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Blacksburg Quarterly Conference.

S. Rodgers, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Lewisburg Quarterly Conference.

L. W. Haslup, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Staunton Quarterly Conference.

M. G. Balthis. Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Winchester Quarterly Conference.

S. F. Buft, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Newport Quarterly Conference.

W. B. McNeer, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Monroe Quarterly Conference.

G. H. Zimmerman, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Woodstock Quarterly Conference.

J. T. Maxwell, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of New Market Quarterly Conference.

W. G. Coe, left without appointment.